



PublicService Commission &lt;psc@utah.gov&gt;

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## Docket 14-035-114 Net Metering

1 message

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**Bill Davis** <billydbt@yahoo.com>  
Reply-To: Bill Davis <billydbt@yahoo.com>  
To: "psc@utah.gov" <psc@utah.gov>

Wed, Aug 16, 2017 at 10:10 AM

Dear Public Service Commission,

I spoke at the August 9th hearing regarding net metering. Here is a link to the summary studies I referenced;

[Shining Rewards](#)

### Shining Rewards

Executive Summary Solar energy is on the rise in the United States. Through September 2016, more than 31 giga...

As the summary concludes, Rooftop solar customers connected to the grid are a benefit to all grid users/ratepayers. Here's why:

1. Grid-tied solar producers reduce voltage drop. In 2015 the US lost 20 billion dollars to voltage drop. Mainly because dirty coal and natural gas burning power plants are often hundreds of miles from major population centers. Electrical resistance over every inch of the power lines causes voltage drop. Distributed generation (in this case solar) means power is produced right where it is being used, lowering voltage drop. The more homes we get with solar, the greater the benefit and the lower the money lost to voltage drop.

2. Savings on peak power purchases. Utilities have three levels of power generation, standard (or basic), high, and peak. Standard and high are produced by the utility. Peak power means local consumption is greater than the utilities production capacity. Peak power is purchased from other utilities and costs the most. Rooftop solar reduces the need for peak purchases. Again, the more solar we put on roofs, the greater the benefit and avoidance of peak purchases. Solar produces the most on hot summer days, right when peak use of power for air conditioning is happening!

3. Rooftop solar can delay or eliminate the need for new power plants. The more rooftop, the less need for new plants. We all pay the cost of new plants.

And there are several other benefits to all, listed in the summary I've included.

Also, please look at your power bill. The first line item of charges is a \$6 basic fee. Call RMP and ask them what this charge is for. They will tell you it is a charge to spread the cost of maintaining and upgrading the grid. Every customer, including solar grid tied customers, pays this fee. Why would you add another fee? If they aren't charging enough on the basic fee, raise it for everyone!

As I mentioned in my remarks speaking to you, a 2013 study commissioned by Edison Power concluded that solar proliferation would eat into profits for utility companies in the U.S. Since that report was published, every utility in North America has been engaged in every activity possible to smear, discredit, and impede solar. Even commissioning bogus "studies" to lie about solar producers costing others.

It's true. rooftop solar is going to eat at their bottom line. But lets be clear, just like the PSC had no right or obligation to save Blockbuster from the infringement of Netflix on their profits/business model, the PSC has no right or obligation to save RMP from solar. It's a better idea and will win out eventually. Good for us! New jobs in a cleaner and socially and environmentally beneficial industry are best for all of us anyway.

Bill Davis  
1176 Cutler Road  
Salt Lake City, UT 84106



PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

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## Re: Docket # 14-035-114 Public Comment

1 message

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**Deb Badger** <dbadgerlaw@gmail.com>

Wed, Aug 16, 2017 at 11:26 AM

To: psc@utah.gov

I am writing to comment on PacificCorp's net metering program. I believe that customers that use solar should not be penalized for their usage. We need to be able to make solar more available to all who use electricity, if they continue to be metered unfairly I feel people will shy away from alternative resources

Joanie Aponte  
764 Sunset Lane  
Ogden UT 84403



PublicService Commission &lt;psc@utah.gov&gt;

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**Docket 14-035-114: Rooftop Solar PSC Docket**

1 message

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**Annette Steele** <amungee@gmail.com>

Wed, Aug 16, 2017 at 4:15 PM

Reply-To: amungee@gmail.com

To: psc@utah.gov

On November 9, Rocky Mountain Power filed a request before the Public Service Commission to raise rates on rooftop solar customers. I oppose this fee request. I do not believe the utility has proven that these customers burden other ratepayers or the system with significant costs.

There are many problems with the utility's claims, including:

Rocky Mountain Power's Cost of Service study dramatically over estimates the cost of servicing rooftop solar customers while underestimating the benefits solar provides to the grid and other ratepayers.

Almost 60% of the "costs" in Rocky Mountain Powers study are actually lost revenue for the utility, rather than actual engineering and maintenance costs. It is not appropriate that the utility seeks to force solar customers to fill its shareholders' pockets.

Lastly, the utility has failed to fully account many of the grid benefits which rooftop solar provides, such as transmission upgrades, deferred capital costs and avoided environmental compliance costs.

I hope the governor's office and the commission take a hard look at the many detailed and thorough testimonies which the solar industry and clean energy advocates have filed.

Rooftop solar is not a "cost" for the grid, but a valuable resource and should be treated as such. These studies will prove it.

Thank you for your time.

Annette Steele  
676 W ridgeline Drive  
Lehi, UT 84043



PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

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## Net Metering Program Docket #14-035-114 "Investigation of the Costs and Benefits of PacifiCorp's Net Metering Program"

1 message

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**Deb Badger** <dbadgerlaw@gmail.com>  
To: psc@utah.gov

Wed, Aug 16, 2017 at 3:04 PM

Greetings Commissioners:

I purchased solar panels for my home in 2015. I am an advocate of breathing clean air and think others are entitled to breathe clean air. The proposed rate changes for new net-metering customers, referenced above, are confusing and I have the following concerns:

1. Raising rates for new solar customers will be a disincentive to invest in solar energy at a time when it power companies should be encouraging it.
2. The proposed rate structure appears to discourage homeowners who have invested in solar panels from selling their excess energy to the power company that is operating the grid.
3. If a home that is currently net-metered is sold, then the new owner would be considered a new net-metering customer, subject to the new rates. This is a deterrent to using the existing solar array.
4. The proposed rate changes appear to be inequitable, since it the only affect new net-metering customers and in no way encourage non-solar power users to conserve energy during peak times.
5. The application of the rate changes is very complicated and will leads to confusion and increased discontent among users, again disincentivizing investment in home solar power.

Encouraging power customers to use less energy during peak times is a reasonable goal, but the burden should be borne across the board, by all users --commercial as well as residential, conventional as well as solar. The current proposal is inequitable and will serve only to confuse, anger, and discourage both new and existing solar-power users.

Sincerely, Deb Badger